

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 20, 1860.—Ordered to be printed

MR. HARLAN submitted the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Jones and others, of Clermont county, Ohio, asking for bounty lands, have reëxamined the same, and ask leave now to report :

That concurring with the opinion expressed by the Commissioner of Pensions, in his letter of May 4, 1858, herewith submitted, and referring to the report on the petition of Allen Gaylord and other citizens of Ohio, for bounty lands, at this session, it only remains for the committee to recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be not granted.

PENSION OFFICE, May 4, 1858.

SIR: In reply to your note of the 30th ultimo, covering the inclosed memorial, and containing a request that I would advise the committee "what (if any) evidence exists" in this office "relating to the matters set forth in said petition." I have the honor to say, that the only testimony adduced, is that filed in the claim of John Buchanan, No. 179,000, and which is to the effect of the facts stated in the petition by the parties themselves; and which, for that reason, being mutually interested, this office does not consider admissible.

It is shown, by the statement made in the memorial, that Captain Thomas Jones's company, though organized in Clermont county, Ohio, and marched to Fort Wayne, was never received into the United States service; consequently it does not come within the provisions of the first section of the act of March 3, 1855, which requires, that in order to obtain land, all State troops must be mustered into the service of, and paid by, the United States. Neither is there any evidence adduced to show that the petitioners served "with the armed forces of the United States" as "volunteers," subject to military orders, for the space of fourteen days, (according to the fifth section of the amendment to said act, approved May 14, 1856,) whether they were mustered into service or not. Competent evidence showing this fact would supersede the necessity of any legislative action in the premises.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. C. WHITING,
Commissioner.

HON. CHARLES E. STUART,
Chairman Committee Public Lands, U. S. Senate.

